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Appendix: The Stepped Shrines of Kharul

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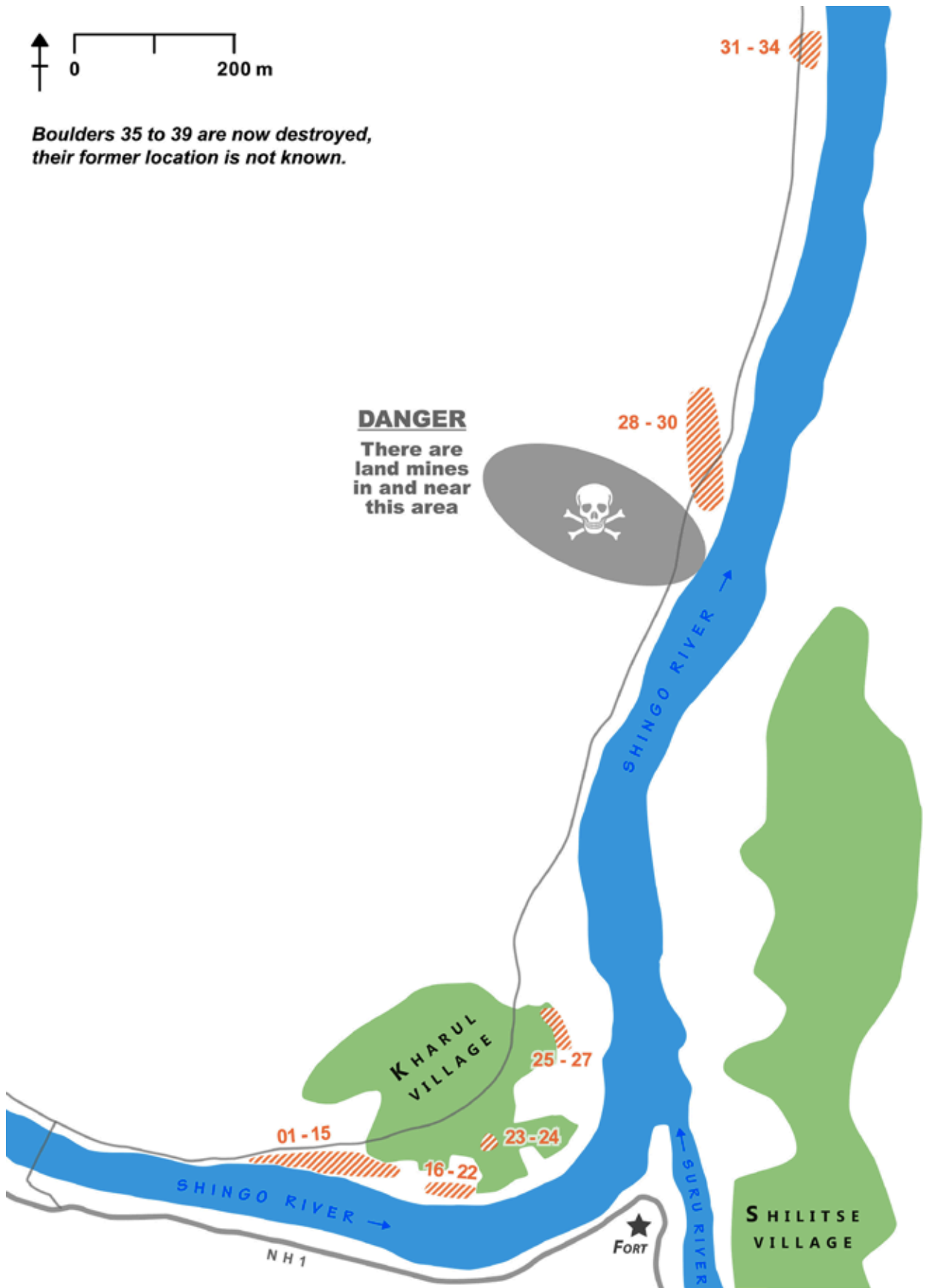
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Appendix: The Stepped Shrines of Kharul

By Quentin Devers, Nils Martin, Tashi Ldawa, and Kacho Mumtaz Khan

As of February 2018, 39 boulders with rock carvings (Bo) have been documented in Kharul. The petroglyphs are very diverse, and include 45 carvings of stepped shrines (St). Five of these boulders (with six carvings of stepped shrines), which were photographed by Tashi Ldawa in 2007, were broken in recent years to be used as construction material – their exact original location is not known (boulders 35 to 39). The remaining boulders are spread over six concentrations located just before the village (when coming from Kargil), within the fields and terraces of the village, and on the plateau that extends downstream of Kharul (known as Dumbuthang or Serthang). **When going to this plateau, one should be extremely careful as there is a field of landmines at the beginning. There is no signboard or fence indicating the exact extent or even the existence of the mined area. Readers are strongly advised to go there only under the supervision of the villagers, who know where it is safe to walk.** All photographs by Quentin Devers, except indicated otherwise (Tashi Ldawa: TLd; Nils Martin: NM).

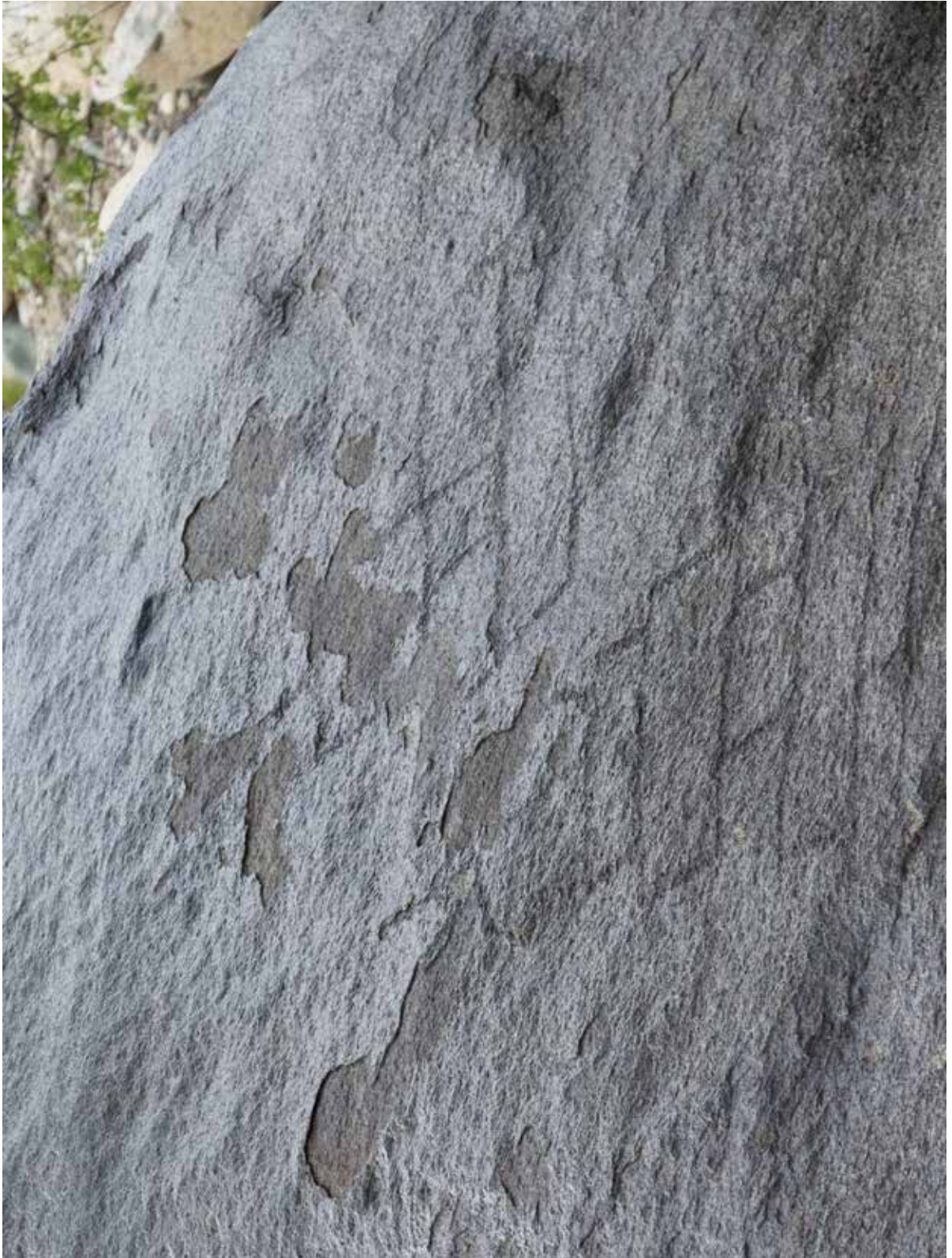


Map 1: location of the six concentrations of boulders in the vicinity of Kharul.



Map 2: location of the boulders within the first three concentrations (Bo01-24).

B002-St1-2 (NIM)



Bo03-St1



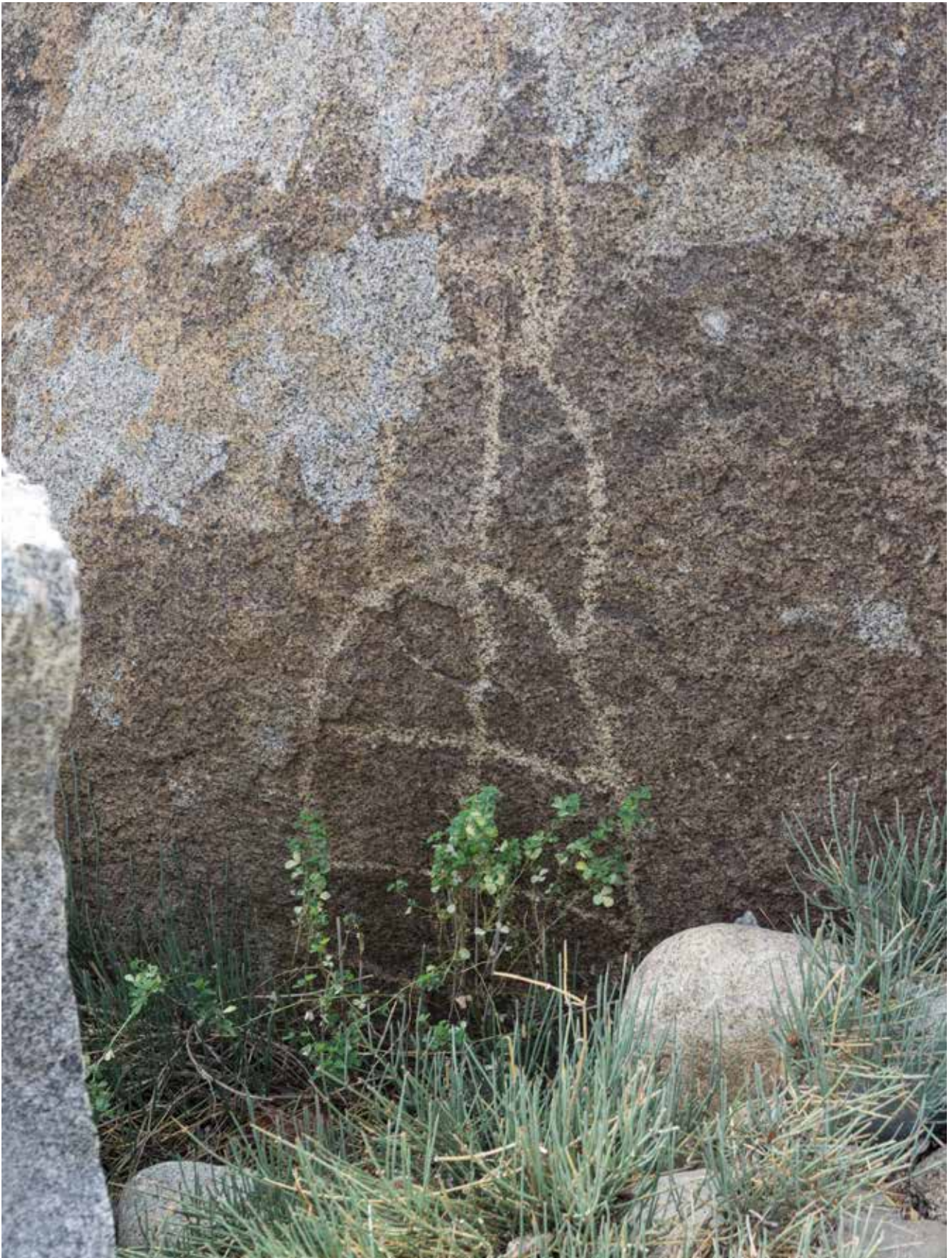
Bo04-St1-3



Bo04-St4



Bo04-St5 (NM)





Bo04-St7



Bo05-St1





Bo07-St1: donor inscription (NM)



1. *|smer·gon
 2. am:(or: a ma·?) phang:(or: pha ba?)_dong
 3. zhe stan
- 'sMer (...)





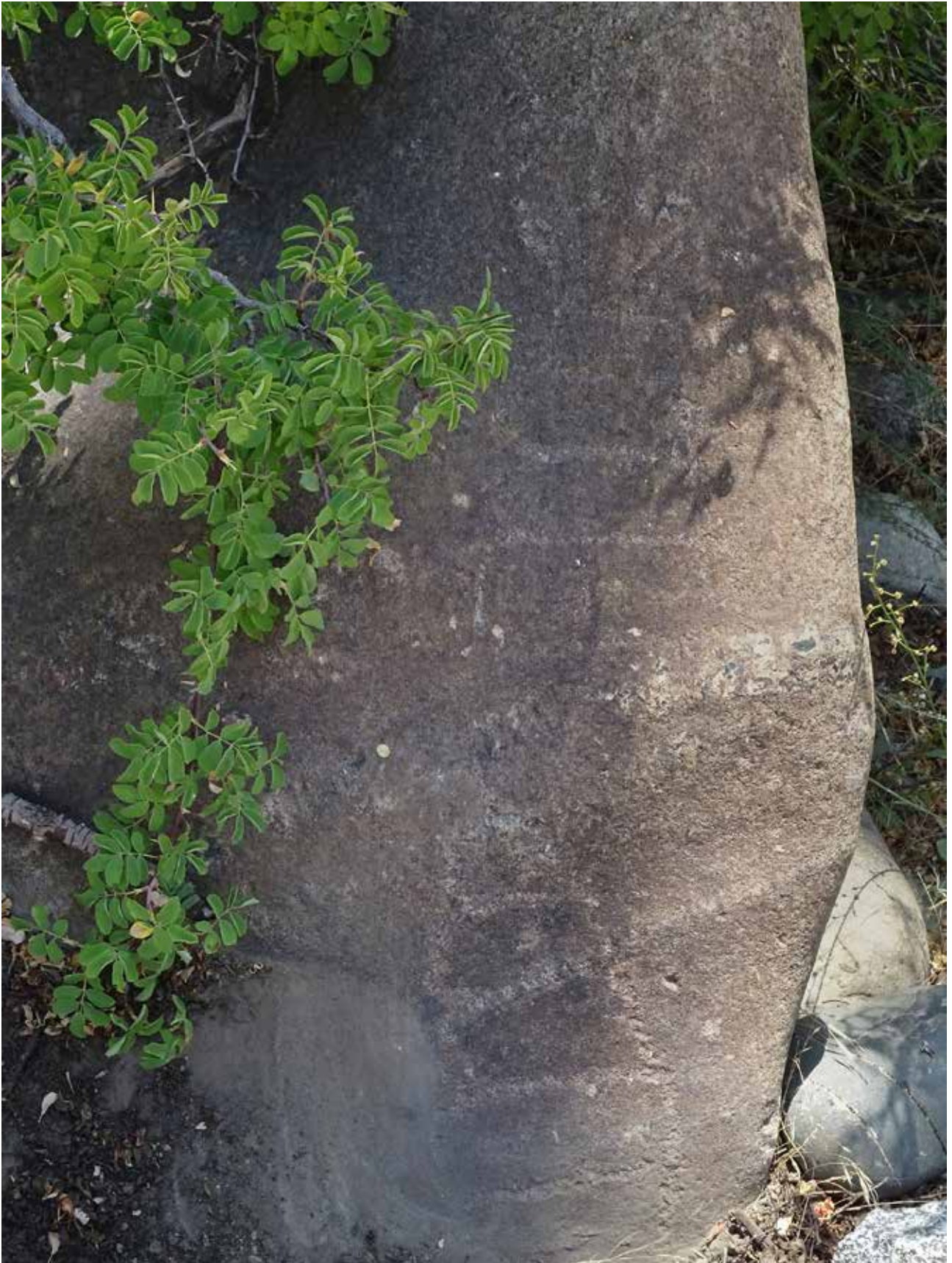
Bo09-St1: donor inscription (NM)



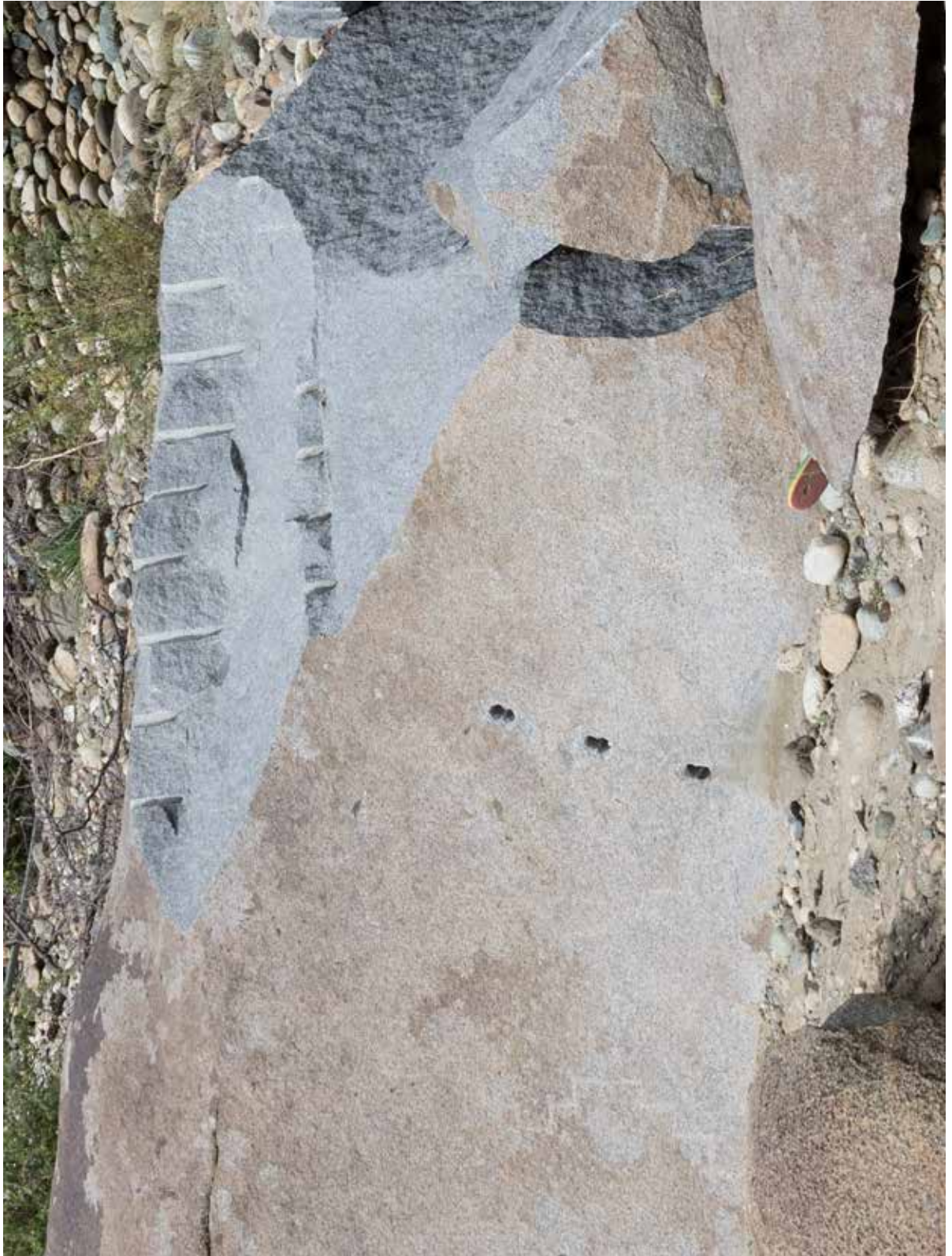
1. *yi·g[e·ba]*
2. *[nya·]nas·b[r]is*
3. *pa·lags*

‘ [This] is the inscription of the *yi ge ba* Nya na.’

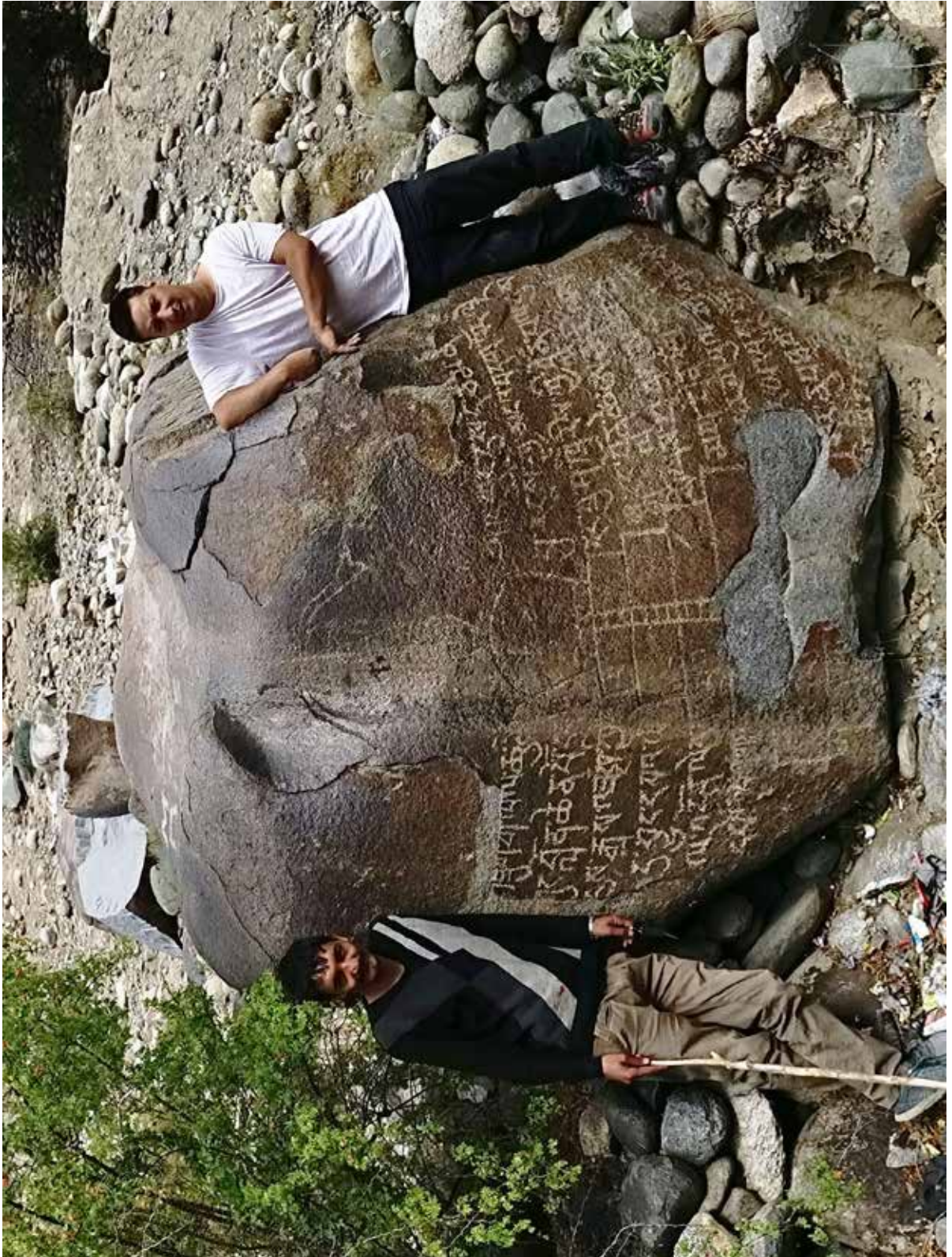
Bo10-St1-2



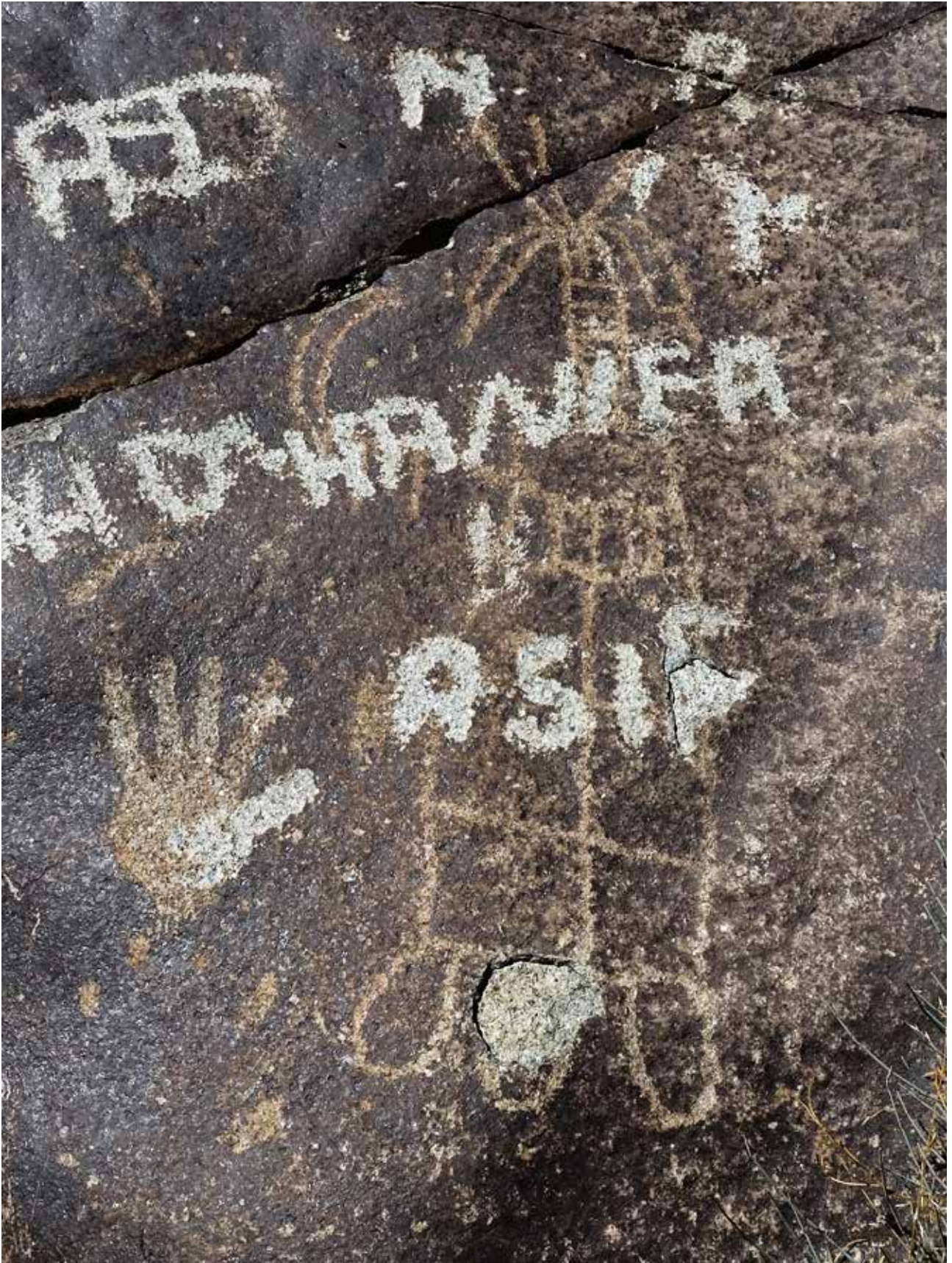
Bo11-St1-2 (NIM)



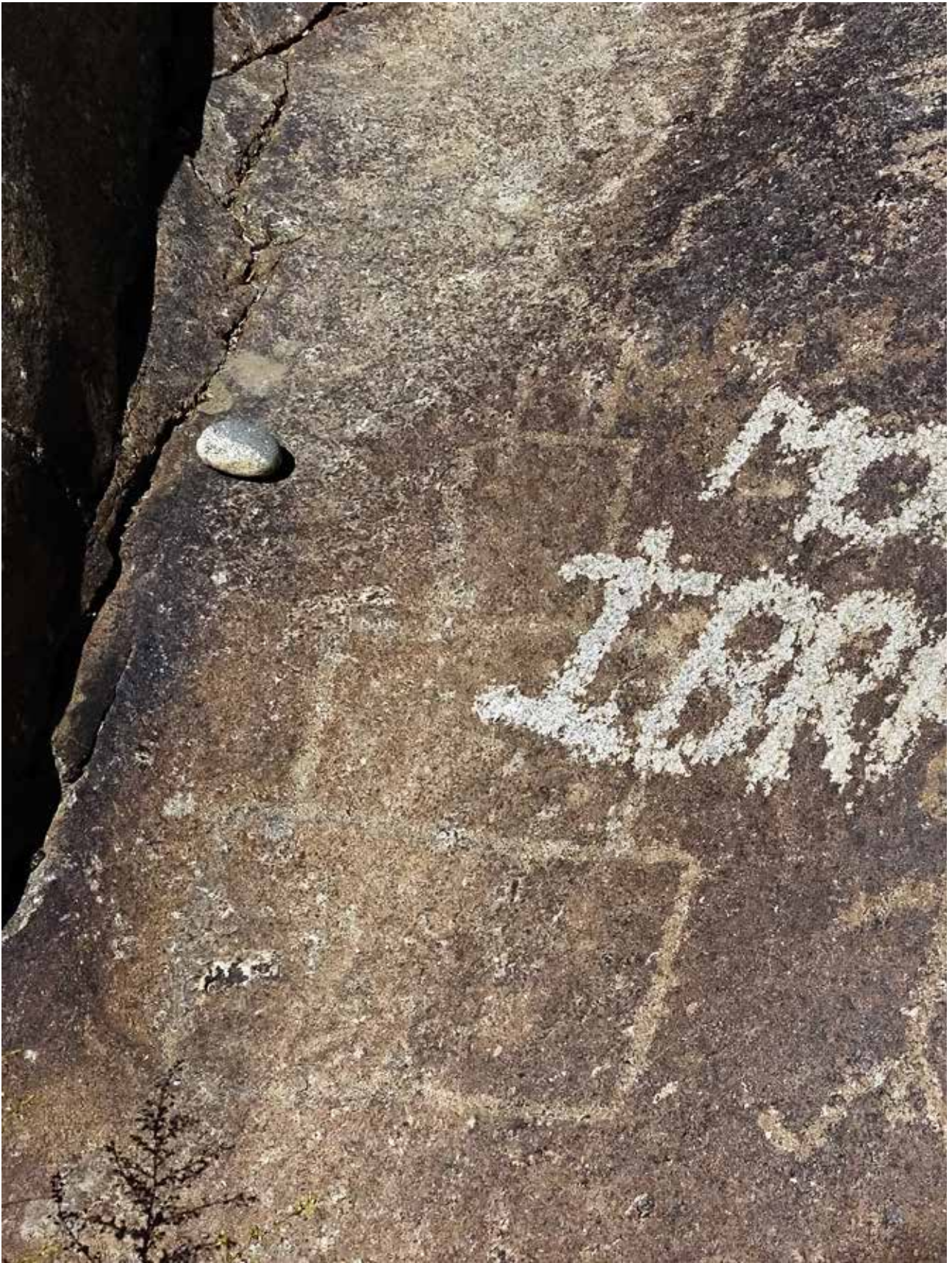
Bo12-St1 with Kacho Sikundar Khan (right) and Hassan Khan (left)



Bo13-St1



Bo14-St1



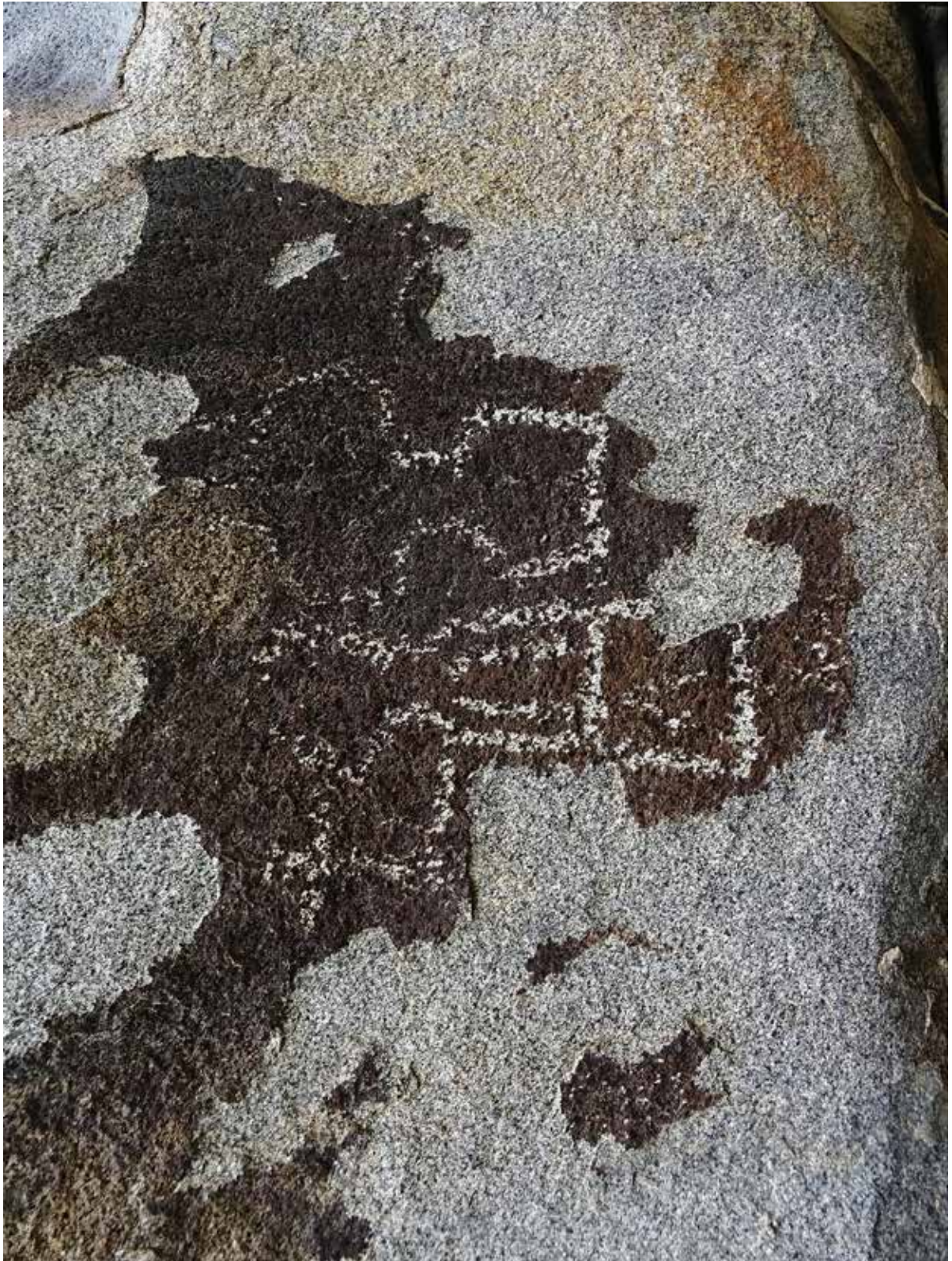
Bo17-St1



Bo19-St1-2



Bo19-Sf3-4



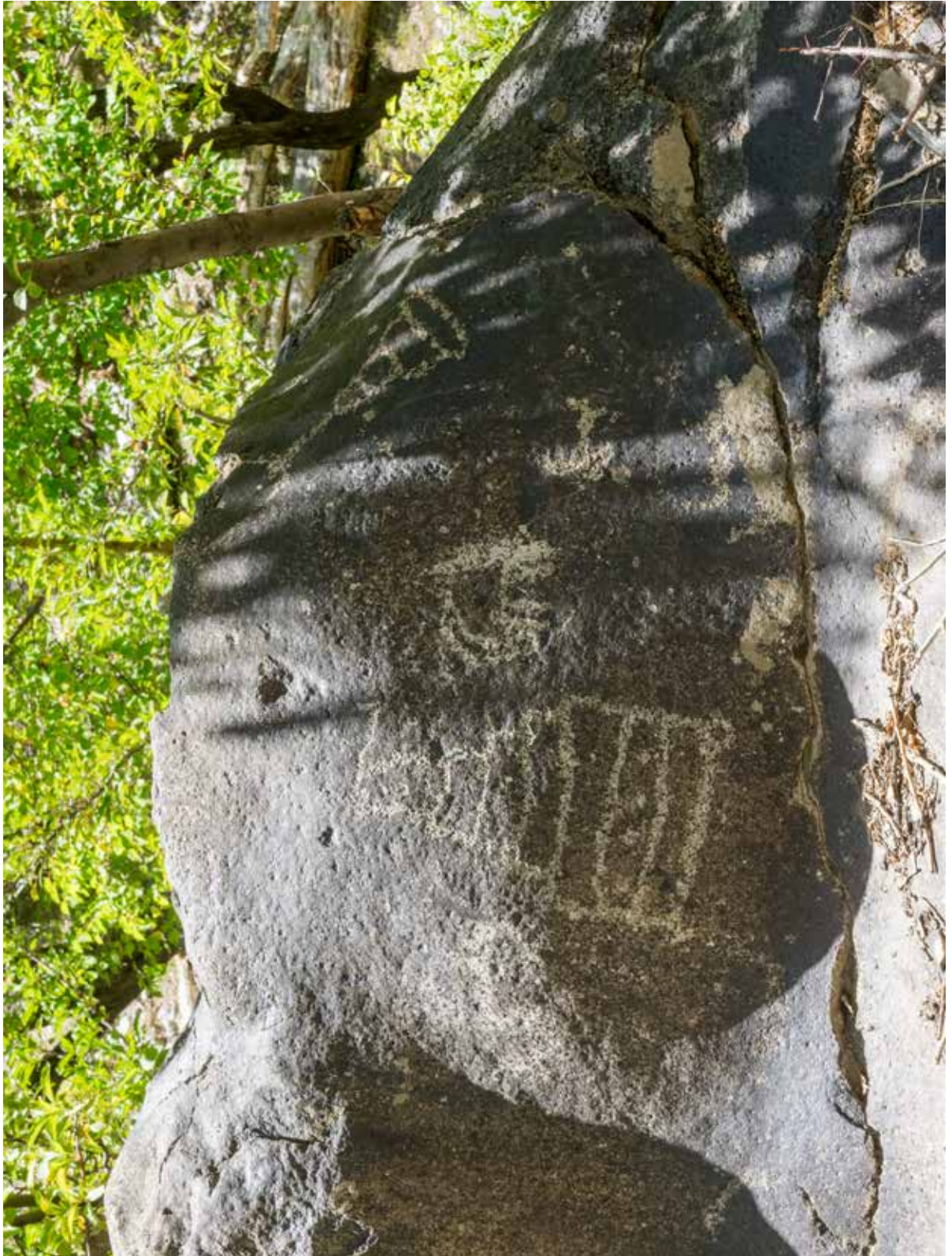
Bo20-St1

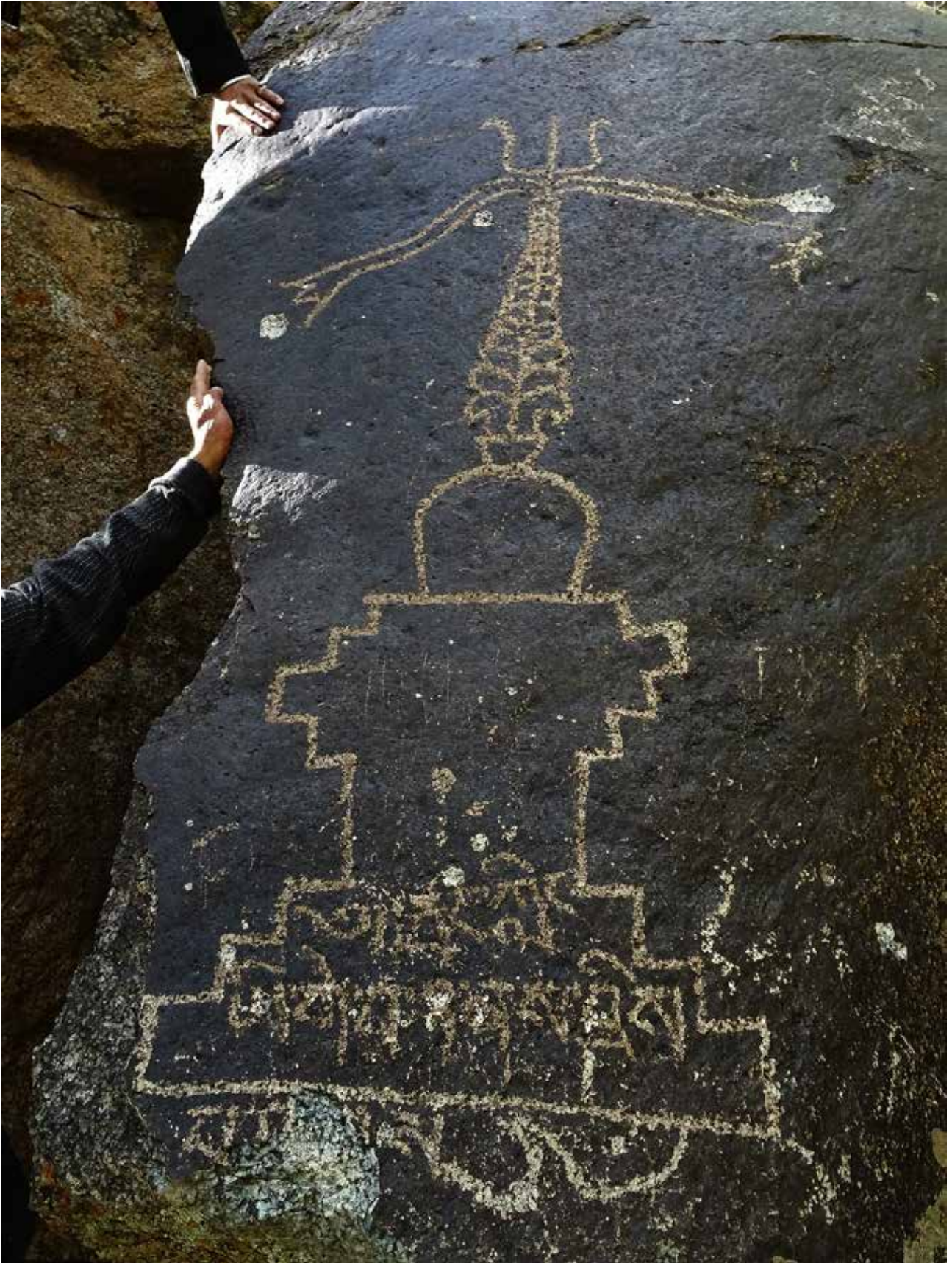


Bo22-St1



Bo23-St1-2 (NIM)





Bo23-St3: donor inscription



1. *|| r^{bang}·^{ling}
2. ^{yi}·^{ge}·^{ba}·^{nya}·^{nas}·^{bris}
3. ^{pa}·[^{lag}]s

‘ [This] is the inscription of the *yi ge ba Nya na* of *rBang kling*.’





Bo26-St1 and donor inscription



1. *ka: shi*
2. *sgras bri*
3. *i*

'Inscribed by Ka shi sGra.'



Bo26-S13-4

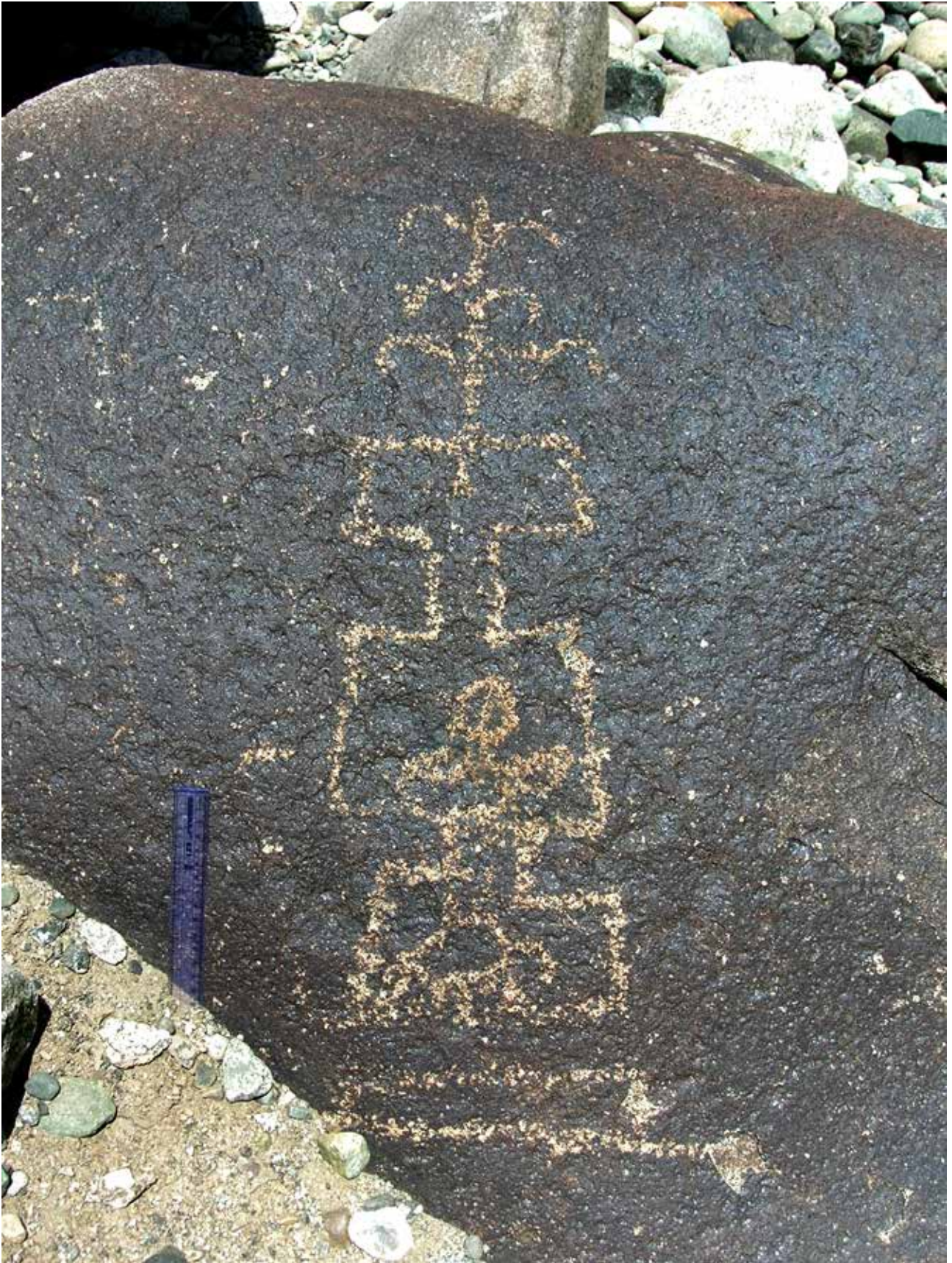


Bo28-St1





Bo35-St1 (TLd)



Bo36-St1 (TLd)



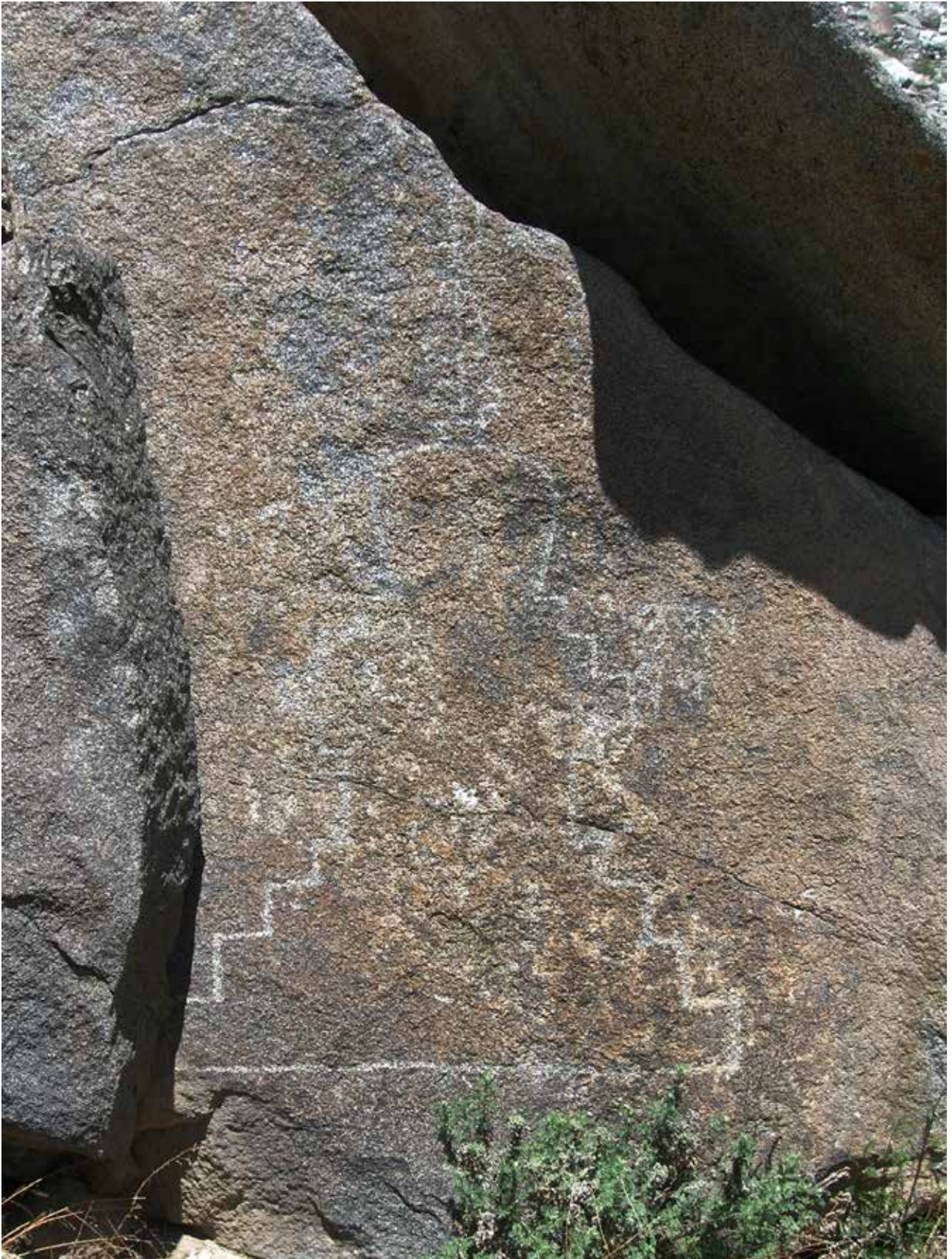
Bo36-St1: donor inscription (TLd)



1. *||*yi·ge·ba*
2. *nya·nas·*
3. *bris·pa*

'Inscribed by the *yi ge ba* Nya na.'

Bo37-St1 (TLd)



Bo37-St1: donor inscription (TLd)

1. */*nya·nas*

2. *bris*

'Inscribed by Nya na.'

Bo38-St1-2 (TLd)



Bo39-St1 (TLd)

